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Fall 9-1-2020

### ENST 230H.01: Nature and Society in Western Society

Daniel T. Spencer

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## NATURE AND SOCIETY [IN WESTERN SOCIETY]

FALL 2020

ENST 230H\_01  
Fall, 2020; UC 302  
MWF 10:00-10:50 am  
CRN: 74171

Dr. Dan Spencer  
Rankin Hall 107A, Tel. 243-6111  
Office Hours: MWF 11:10 am – 12:00 pm. Thu 3:00-4:30 pm  
e-mail: daniel.spencer@umontana.edu

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores how the relationship between human societies and the natural world has been influenced throughout history by various thinkers and ideas. We also consider how nature itself and our interactions with it has influenced society, and in turn, environmental thought. Thus, we examine ecological and biogeographical constraints and ways humans have culturally adapted in attempting to surmount those limits. We explore Western (Euro-American) environmental thought from prehistory until today. To help us understand its distinctiveness we also touch on some contrasting nonwestern perspectives. We necessarily are only able to give limited attention to the various ages, even within the western tradition, and thus, environmental thought and developments of many societies and civilizations are not covered.

Nevertheless, we will examine major paradigmatic shifts and strive to understand how environmental thought has affected the way different societies have viewed nature, their place with respect to the natural world, and in turn, their interactions with it. By exploring that theme, we will also see connections between ideas, writers, and thinkers of the past and the current global environmental crisis. We will ponder if the answers to a more sustainable, prosperous, and just society in the future reside in history and its lessons, or whether we will need to forge new ideas, sensibilities, and ways of relating to each other and nature. Students are encouraged to explore their own connections with the past, develop principles and values that have personal meaning, and contemplate their place in nature and society.

### OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Articulate the distinctive ideas, and social and historical contexts, of influential thinkers and their writings about the role of humans in relation to the natural world.
2. Think critically about the effects of such views on different societies' interactions with the natural world.
3. Recognize the importance of other historical factors, particularly scientific advancements, technological developments, and changes in social organization.
4. Synthesize ideas and events that led to several major paradigmatic shifts, from pre-history to the present, regarding dominant societal views of the place of humans in nature.
5. Analyze current environmental issues utilizing historical ideas, thinkers, and events.
6. Articulate their personal perspectives on human-nature interactions in relation to historical ideas, thinkers, and events.

## GENERAL EDUCATION IN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES (H) (from UM's website)

These courses present the historical or cultural contexts of ideas and institutions, and examine cultural development or differentiation in the human past. They are foundational in that they are wide-ranging in chronological, geographical, or topical focus, or in that they introduce students to methods of inquiry specific to a particular discipline.

Upon completion of a Historical and Cultural Studies course, students will be able to:

- 1 Synthesize ideas and information with a view to understanding the causes and consequences of historical developments and events;
- 2 Evaluate texts or artifacts within their historical and/or cultural contexts;
- 3 Analyze human behavior, ideas, and institutions within their respective historical and/or cultural contexts.

## TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Martín Ceja Mejía: [martin.cejamejia@umontana.edu](mailto:martin.cejamejia@umontana.edu); M-2; Office hours: MW 1:00-2:30 pm

Zoom link: [Zoom link for Martin Ceja Mejia Office Hours](#)

Norah Cook: [norah.cook@umontana.edu](mailto:norah.cook@umontana.edu); M-2; Office hours: Tu-Th 9:30-11:00 am

Zoom link: [Zoom Link for Nora Cook Office Hours](#)

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Harari, Yuval Noah. *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* (New York: HarperCollins, 2015). ISBN: 9780099590088

Quinn, Daniel. *Ishmael* (New York: Bantam/Turner). ISBN: 0553375407

Swimme, Brian and Mary Evelyn Tucker. *Journey of the Universe*. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2011). ISBN: 97803000171907 (JU)

Electronic Reserve Readings on Moodle: (MOODLE)

## REQUIREMENTS

- PLEASE TURN OFF ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING CLASS [This includes cellphones, tablets, and laptops]
- Regular class attendance and participation that demonstrates a grasp of the reading assignments
- Short critical response essays on *Journey of the Universe* and *Ishmael*
- Weekly 2-page response essays to the readings
- Written midterm and final exams
- Final essay synthesizing learnings from the course

## CLASS MEETINGS AND FORMAT

Class meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00--10:50 am. On Monday and Wednesday we meet in UC 302. Most Fridays the class will be divided into smaller activity sections, which will meet separately with either the instructor or one of the teaching assistants. Your class location and teacher for Friday class will be announced in class the first week. Friday discussion sections will meet either outside or remotely via Zoom; your Friday section leader will let you know each week where you will be meeting. Readings not listed in the course schedule may be assigned for

Friday sections by your teacher. Tests, in-class writing and reading, discussion, and other activities will mostly occur on Fridays and will usually, but not always, cover material, ideas, and questions raised during the week. Special assignments for sections can also be expected.

ZOOM LINK FOR MW LECTURES: [Zoom Link for MW Class Lectures](#)

Dan's Friday Section Zoom link: [Zoom Link for Dan's Friday section](#)

Martín's Friday Section Zoom link: [Zoom Link for Martins's Friday Section](#)

Norah's Friday Section Zoom link: [Zoom Link for Norah's Friday Section](#)

#### ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASSES

Sapiens = *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*; JU = *Journey of the Universe*;  
MOODLE = readings on Moodle

#### INTRODUCTION

<u>Class</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic and Assigned Reading</u>
8/19	W	1	Introduction: Laying out themes and structure of the course
8/21	F	2	Why It Matters: The Cosmological Context and The Planetary Challenge to the Human Race  <i>Journey of the Universe</i> , Chs. 1-4 (JU pp. 1-45)
8/24	M	3	Journey of the Universe II: The Emergence of Life  <i>Journey of the Universe</i> , Chs. 5-7 (JU pp. 47-79)
8/26	W	4	Journey of the Universe III: The Origin and Impact of Humans  <i>Journey of the Universe</i> , Chs. 8-11 (JU pp. 81-118)
8/28	F	5	<u>No class today</u> : Work on <i>Journey of the Universe</i> essay.
8/31	M	6	Raising Questions I: The Relation of Culture and Ecology <i>Ishmael</i> : Chs. 1-5 (pp. 3-91) <u><i>Journey of the Universe</i> response essay due to your Friday section leader by class</u>
9/2	W	7	Raising Questions II: Takers, Leavers, and a Crashing Culture? <i>Ishmael</i> : Chs. 6-9 (pp. 95-184)
9/4	F	8	<u>Section Meetings</u> : Discuss <i>Ishmael</i> <i>Ishmael</i> : Chs. 10-13 (pp. 187-263)

9/7 M LABOR DAY: NO CLASS

I. SETTING THE CONTEXT: FROM PRE-HISTORY TO EARLY CIVILIZATION

9/9 W 9 The Cognitive Revolution I: The Emergence of *Homo Sapiens*

*Sapiens* Ch. 1: “An Animal of No Significance”

*Sapiens* Ch. 2: “The Tree of Knowledge”

Recommended: E. O. Wilson: “The Riddle of the Human Species” MOODLE #5  
John Poggie, et al “Introduction” to *The Evolution of Human Adaptations*; pp 1-15  
MOODLE #6

*Ishmael* response essay due to your Friday section leader by class

9/11 F 10 The Cognitive Revolution II: Forager Cultures and Mass Extinctions

*Sapiens* Ch. 3: “A Day in the Life of Adam and Eve”

*Sapiens* Ch. 4: “The Flood”

Jared Diamond “Introduction” and “Up to the Starting Line” from *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* pp 9-25, 35-52 MOODLE #7, 7A

9/14 M 11 The Agricultural Revolution I: The Great Transition

*Sapiens* Ch. 5: “History’s Biggest Fraud”

*Sapiens* Ch. 6: “Building Pyramids”

Recommended: Jared Diamond “Farmer Power”, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* pp 85-92  
MOODLE #8

Jared Diamond “History’s Haves and Have-nots”, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*  
pp 93-103 MOODLE #9

Jared Diamond “To Farm or Not to Farm”, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*  
pp 104-113 MOODLE #10

9/16 W 12 The Agricultural Revolution II: Culture, Writing, and Social Hierarchy

*Sapiens* Ch. 7: “Memory Overload”

*Sapiens* Ch. 8: “There is No Justice in History”

Recommended: J. John Palen “Emergence of Cities” from *The Urban World* pp 21-25;  
29-57 MOODLE #11A, 11B, 11C

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading Response* essay due to your Friday section leader by class

9/18 F 13 Section Meetings: Review for 1<sup>st</sup> Midterm Exam

## II. VIEWING EARTH, VIEWING HUMANITY: FOUNDATIONS FOR WESTERN AND NON-WESTERN WORLD VIEWS

9/21 M 14 The Unification of Humankind: Emergence of Empire

*Sapiens* Ch. 9: “The Arrow of History”  
*Sapiens* Ch. 10: “The Scent of Money”  
*Sapiens* Ch. 11: “Imperial Visions”

9/23 W 15 From Animism to Polytheism to Monotheism: The Emergence of Religion, Ancient Hebrew Views, Dominion and the Biblical Tradition

*Sapiens* Ch. 12 “The Law of Religion”  
Daniel Hillel “Environment and Culture: A Premise and Its Implications” and  
“Perceptions of Humanity’s Role on God’s Earth” from *The Natural History of the Bible* pp 11-25, 241-246 MOODLE #12  
Selections from *Genesis* and Psalm 8 in the Hebrew Bible MOODLE #13

9/25 F 16 1<sup>st</sup> Midterm Exam

9/28 M 17 “The Word Made Flesh”: Christianity & the Medieval Synthesis

Victor Ferkiss “To Serve Man or to Serve Nature?” pp 1-17 MOODLE #14  
“Great Chain of Being” in *New World Encyclopedia* MOODLE #15

## III. MOVING TOWARD MODERNITY: THE DISENCHANTMENT & DOMINATION OF NATURE

9/30 W 18 Science Rising: Method, Monster, or Savior?

*Sapiens* Ch. 14, pp. 247-266: “The Discovery of Ignorance”  
“The Scientific Revolution: Nature on the Rack” NW pp 168-179 MOODLE #16  
“Philosophers of the Brave New World” NW pp 180-193 MOODLE #17  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Response essay due to your Friday section leader by class*

10/2 F 19 The Enlightenment, Private Property, and “Man’s” New Ascendancy

John Locke “Of Property” from *The Two Treatises of Government* MOODLE #18  
“The Enlightenment: The Disenchantment of Nature” NW pp 214-221 MOODLE #19

10/5 M 20 Wedding Science with Technology: Colonialism, the Industrial Revolution and the New Global Economy

*Sapiens* Ch. 15: “The Marriage of Science and Empire”  
Victor Ferkiss “Technology Triumphs: The Industrial Revolution” MOODLE #20

Recommended: *Sapiens* Ch. 16: “The Capitalist Creed”

10/7 W 21 The Scientific Method Meets Geology & Biology: The Legacy of Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin *The Origin of Species* 27-30; 115-121 MOODLE #21

Selections from Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction* MOODLE #22

Recommended: Donald Worster "Scrambling for Place" from *Nature's Economy: The Roots of Ecology* pp 145-169 MOODLE #23

*3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Response essay due to your Friday section leader by class*

10/9 F 22 Section Meetings: Discuss Readings

IV. Restoring Reverence & Harnessing Humans: Romanticism, Transcendentalism, and the Beginning of Conservation & Preservation

10/12 M 23 Henry David Thoreau & John Muir: The Roots and Rise of the U.S. Environmental Movement

R. Nash: "Henry David Thoreau: Philosopher" MOODLE #24

Rebecca Solnit: "The Thoreau Problem" from *Orion* 2009 MOODLE #26

R. Nash: "Wilderness Preserved" MOODLE #27

R. Nash: "John Muir: Publicizer" MOODLE #28

John Muir: Excerpts from "A Wind-storm in the Forests" MOODLE #30

John Muir: Pulling Down Our Monuments by Michael Brune MOODLE #31A

Recommended:

Henry David Thoreau: "Walking" pp 3-32 MOODLE #25

John Muir "The Philosophy of John Muir" from *The Wilderness World of John Muir* pp 311-323 MOODLE #31

R. Nash: "Hetch Hetchy" MOODLE #29

C. Wohlforth: "Conservation and Eugenics" MOODLE #32A

10/14 W 24 The Underside of Manifest Destiny: Expeditions and the Role of People of Color

Dorceta Taylor: "People of Color: Access to and Control of Resources" MOODLE#32

*4<sup>th</sup> Reading Response essay due to your Friday section leader by class*

10/16 F 25 Section Meetings: Review for 2<sup>nd</sup> Midterm Exam

10/19 M 26 Nature and Society in the City: The Beginnings of Urban Environmentalism

Robert Gottlieb: "Urban and Industrial Roots: Seeking to Reform the System"

MOODLE #33

10/21 W 27 2<sup>nd</sup> Midterm Exam

V: The Rise of Modern Environmentalism

10/23 F 28 Ecology and Conservation Biology

Aldo Leopold “Thinking Like a Mountain” from *A Sand County Almanac* pp 137-141  
MOODLE #34

Aldo Leopold “The Land Ethic” from *A Sand County Almanac* pp 201-226 MOODLE  
#35

R. Nash: “Aldo Leopold: Prophet” MOODLE #36

Recommended:

“Ecology, Conservation, and Ethics” pp. 62-77 from John Grim and Mary Evelyn  
Tucker, *Ecology and Religion*. MOODLE #37

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Len Broberg, Environmental Studies

10/26 M 29 Rachel Carson’s Not-So-Silent Spring: The Rise of the Green Critique

Rachel Carson: Excerpts from her writings MOODLE #38

“Preface to the Second Edition of *The Sea Around Us*” [1961]

“A Fable for Tomorrow” [1962]

“A New Chapter to *Silent Spring*” [1963]

“The Pollution of Our Environment” [1963]

Rachel Carson: “Introduction” by Linda Lair and “The Obligation to Endure,” Chapter  
2 from *Silent Spring* MOODLE #39

“Rachel Carson” *Dreamers and Defenders: American Conservationists* MOODLE #40

10/28 W 30 Earth Day and Beyond: Institutionalization of the New Environmental Paradigm

Philip Shabecoff “Saving Ourselves” from *A Fierce Green Fire*” pp 103-119  
MOODLE 41

Philip Shabecoff “The Environmental Revolution” from *A Fierce Green Fire*” pp 121-  
139 MOODLE #42

*5<sup>th</sup> Reading Response essay due to your Friday section leader by class*

10/30 F 31 Section Meetings: Discuss class readings

11/2 M 32 Dissenters from the Left: The Emergence of Radical Ecology and the Critique of  
“Shallow” Ecology

Arne Naess “Ecology: The Shallow and the Deep” pp 167-172 MOODLE #43



Bill Devall and George Sessions “Principles of Deep Ecology” from *Worldviews, Religion, and the Environment* pp 434-440 MOODLE #44  
*Sapiens* Ch. 17: “The Wheels of Industry”

11/4 W 33 Sacred Time versus Sacred Place: Native American Perspectives

Vine Deloria “Sacred Lands and Religious Freedom” in *For This Land: Writings on Religion in America* pp 203-213 MOODLE #45

George Tinker “Native Americans and the Land: ‘The End of Living and the Beginning of Survival’” in *Constructing Christian Theologies from the Underside* pp 141-151 MOODLE #46

Rosalyn LaPier “Silent, Sacred and Wild.” MOODLE #47 Available at: [LaPier - Silent, Sacred and Wild](#)

Documentary: *Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action*

6<sup>th</sup> (Final!) Reading Response essay due to your Friday section leader by class

11/6 F 34 Section Meetings: Discuss class readings

11/9 M 35 Integrating Social Justice with Environmental Sustainability:  
Environmental Justice

Jedediah Purdy: “Environmentalism Was Once a Social-Justice Movement”  
MOODLE #48

Recommended: “Toxic Wastes at Twenty: Introduction & Chapter 1.” Available at:  
[Toxic Wastes at Twenty chapter 1](#).

Paul Mohai, David Pellow & J. Timmons Roberts. “Environmental Justice.” *Annual Review of Environmental Resources*, 2009, Vol. 34, pp. 405–30.

“Toxic Turmoil.” *The Missoulian*. May 31, 2009.

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Robin Saha, Environmental Studies

11/11 W VETERANS DAY – NO CLASSES

11/13 F 36 Where Does the Nature—Human Relation Go From Here? Globalization & Climate Change in the Anthropocene

*Sapiens* Ch. 18: “A Permanent Revolution”

*Sapiens* Ch. 19: “And They Lived Happily Ever After”

Naomi Klein: “Beyond Extractivism: Confronting the Climate Denier Within”  
MOODLE #49

11/16 M 37 Wrap-up and Class Review

*Final Learning Synthesis Essay due to your Friday section leader by class*

11/18 W 38 Section Meeting: Discuss Readings and Review for Final Exam

Final Exam Period: Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 am

**UM COVID-19 POLICIES FOR CLASSES & CLASSROOMS:**

- Mask use is required within the classroom
- Each student is provided with a cleaning kit. The expectation is that students will clean their personal work space when they arrive for class, and before they leave the classroom
- Classrooms may have one-way entrances / exits to minimize crowding
- Students are discouraged from congregating outside the classroom before and after class
- Specific seating arrangements will be used to ensure social distancing and support contact tracing efforts
- Class attendance will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom (which requires mask removal)
- If the class is being recorded, students must be notified of the recording
- Stay home if you feel sick and/or if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms
- If the student is sick or displaying symptoms, contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330
- UM Coronavirus Website: [UMT Corona Virus](#)
- UM COVID-19 Fall 2020 website: [UMT Corona Virus Fall 2020](#)
- Strongly encourage students to remain vigilant outside the classroom in mitigating the spread of COVID-19

**Zoom & Moodle:**

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that at some point in the semester we may need to go to teaching remotely via Zoom. Classes will be taught in-person as long as possible, but also will be broadcast and recorded using Zoom at this link: [Class Zoom Link- recordings](#) Each recorded class session will be posted to Moodle, so if you have to miss a class, you can watch it later.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for social distancing, I will hold my office hours remotely via Zoom this semester. You may set up a time with me ahead of time for my office hours, or “drop by” and wait in the waiting room until I am able to let you in. That will ensure confidentiality for each person using office hours. The Zoom link for the MWF 11:10 am-12:00 pm office hour is: [Zoom Link for Dan's MWF Office hours](#) The Zoom link for the Thur 3:00-4:30 pm office hour is: [Zoom Link for Dan's Thursday office hours](#) . If those times don't work for you, I am also available by appointment. Email me at [Daniel.spencer@umontana.edu](mailto:Daniel.spencer@umontana.edu) for an appointment.

**UM BOX:** As much as possible, given the COVID-19, we will teach ENST 230 as a paperless class. Students will email their written work to their Friday Section leader by the due date. Each student will have a file folder in UM Box ([Class Box Log-in Page](#)) within the file folder of their Friday Section leader. Graded assignments will be placed in each student's Box folder.

**GRADING POLICY**

1. *Journey of the Universe* response essay: 10%
2. *Ishmael* critical response essay: 15%

3. Six weekly response essays to the readings: 15%
5. 2 Midterm Exams: 30% (15% each)
6. Final “Learning Synthesis” Essay: 15%
7. Final exam: 15%

Note Re Papers: Papers are due in class on or before the date listed in the syllabus. Unless you have made a prior agreement with me, I will take off one grade level (A becomes A-) for each class day an assignment is late. Note: All paper assignments will be submitted by email to each student’s Friday section leader. Graded assignments will be returned to the student’s UM Box folder. Papers with an undue number of errors of punctuation, spelling, or grammar will be returned ungraded for correction and the final grade will be marked down one full letter grade. Written work will be evaluated in terms of your depth of critical analysis, thoughtfulness of reflection, clarity of writing, and ability to address issues raised in the text and in class on the topic at hand. Grades given reflect the following criteria of judgment:

- F: Failure to meet minimum requirements
- D: Unsatisfactory, but some effort to meet minimum requirements
- C: Satisfactory; meet minimum requirements of assignment but not much more
- B: Good to Very Good: thoughtful reflection, good analysis, clear writing style
- A: Excellent depth of critical analysis, thoughtfulness of reflection, and writing style; demonstrate creativity and mature analytical skills in going beyond the primary requirements of the assignment

Note: Final Grades will be recorded using pluses and minuses.

Attendance: Regular attendance and participation in the class is expected. More than four (4) absences will result in losing any benefit of the doubt on your final grade. More than seven (7) absences will result in one grade reduction. More than ten (10) absences will result in a failing course grade. Late arrivals in class will count as an absence. (Note: I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences in totaling your number of absences. If you have a valid reason for missing several classes, such as illness or other conflicting commitments, you still must speak with the instructor.)

Cellphones & Electronic Devices: Please turn off all cellphones and electronic devices during class time. *Students who text or use electronic devices during class will be asked to leave and counted as absent for that class.*

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism: All work submitted is expected to be the student's own. Any acts of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in automatic failure of the course, and may result in further academic punishment. If you have any doubts about definitions of plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please review the relevant sections of the University Catalog.

**WEIGHT AND TIMELINE OF ASSIGNMENTS**

The total number of points available for class assignments is 500 points. There are no extra credit points available (so please don’t ask).

In order of due dates, the assignments are:		<u>points</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>due date</u>
1.	<i>Journey of the Universe</i> response essay	50	10%	August 31
2.	<i>Ishmael</i> critical response essay	75	15%	September 9
3.	6 Weekly response essays	75	15%	each Wednesday
4.	1 <sup>st</sup> Midterm exam	75	15%	September 25

5. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Midterm exam	75	15%	October 21
6. Final Learning Synthesis essay	75	15%	November 16
7. Final Exam	75	15%	November 19

#### DESCRIPTION OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

1. Response essay to *Journey of the Universe* (5%): This is a 3-page critical response essay to the book and documentary, *Journey of the Universe*. See the more detailed assignment posted on Moodle for specific instructions. (Paper Due by class to your Friday section leader by email: Aug 31)

2. *Ishmael* critical response essay (10%): Write a 5-6 page, typed, double-spaced critical response to Daniel Quinn’s novel, *Ishmael*. Roughly two-thirds of your essay (4 pages) should be a thoughtful *exposition* of the main points in the book where *summarize* and *explain* Quinn’s argument. Then develop your *response* to the book in the final third of your paper. See the more detailed assignment posted on Moodle for specific instructions. (Note: Your essay must contain specific references to and relevant quotes from the text to support your exposition and argument. Give page numbers for quotes or where you are summarizing from the text. *Your audience is someone who has not read the book.*) (Paper Due by class to your Friday section leader by email: Sept 9)

3. Weekly Response Essays: Your main job to prepare for the participation portion of this course is to do each assigned reading thoughtfully before class and then to help us discuss it in class, particularly the Friday sessions. To help you think critically about what you read, each week you will write a short two-page response essay to the weekly readings. See the more detailed assignment posted on Moodle for specific instructions.

Turn in your essay by email to your Friday instructor at the beginning of each Wednesday class session starting the week of Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Your essays should be typed and double-spaced and proofread for writing errors. The purpose is to help you do the reading well and to prepare for the Friday discussion sessions where we will all share our ideas about the reading. You should be prepared to speak about your ideas or questions during the class discussion.

3. Final “Learning Synthesis” Essay: The assignment is designed to help you synthesize what you have learned throughout the semester by reflecting on your own views in light of the course materials. The specific directions will be handed out and discussed in your Friday section. The essay itself is due on Friday the final week of classes. (Paper Due by class to your Friday section leader by email: Mon, Nov 16)

5. Midterm and Final Exams: These 50-minute exams are designed for in-class and will cover material from the first, second and third portions of the semester. The format of the exam will include multiple choice and short answer identifications to cover basic content you should know, as well as essay questions to assess how well you are able to integrate and reflect on what you are learning. *The format for the exam may change if the class goes to remote instruction.* Review sessions will take place on September 18, October 16 and November 18. Midterm exams:

September 25 and October 21; Final exam: November 19. Note: No makeup tests for these dates will be allowed without signed official documentation *and* advanced consent of instructor.

Important University Policies, Dates and Deadlines:

See the Calendar page in Cyberbear for a list of important dates for Fall 2020: [Registrar Calendar](#).

Students are responsible for being aware of these dates.

Credit/No Credit Grade option: A minimum grade average of D- (60) is required for a CR grade in the CR/NC Grade option.

Incomplete Grade: Please see the criteria that must be met for an Incomplete in the University Catalog. No exceptions will be made for these criteria.

Learning Disabilities: The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation. For more information, please consult [UMT Disability Office](#).

#### LIST OF MOODLE READINGS, FALL 2020

1. Edward O. Wilson. "The Diversity of Life" in Matthew A. Cahn and Rory O'Brien, eds. *Thinking About the Environment: Readings on Politics, Property, and the Physical World* (London: M. E. Sharpe, 1996), pp. 193-195.
2. Anne Ehrlich and Paul Ehrlich. "Extinction: Life in Peril" in Lori Gruen and Dale Jamieson, eds. *Reflecting on Nature: Readings in Environmental Philosophy* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994), pp. 335-342.
3. Will Steffen, Wendy Broadgate, Lisa Deutsch, Owen Gaffney, and Cornelia Ludwig. 2015. "The Trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration." *The Anthropocene Review*: 1-18, published online January 16, 2015.
4. Jeffrey Sachs. "The Anthropocene" in *Commonwealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet* (New York: Penguin, 2008), pp. 57-81
5. E. O. Wilson: "The Riddle of the Human Species"; *New York Times*, 2-24-2013.
6. John J. Poggie, Jr., Gretel H. Peltó, Pertti J. Peltó. "Introduction" to *The Evolution of Human Adaptations*" (New York: Macmillan, 1976), pp. 1-15.
7. Jared Diamond. "Preface & Introduction" from *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York and London: W. W. Norton, 1999), pp. 9-25.
- 7A. Jared Diamond. "Up to the Starting Line" from *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York and London: W. W. Norton, 1999), pp. 35-52.

8. Jared Diamond. "Farmer Power" from *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York and London: W. W. Norton, 1999), pp. 85-92.
9. Jared Diamond. "History's Haves and Have-nots" from *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* (New York and London: W. W. Norton, 1999), pp. 93-103.
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